



IN DEFENCE OF SINGAPORE

A Series of Drawings with brief Notes by :

L/BDR. A. V. TOZE - 122 FIELD REGIMENT, ROYAL ARTILLERY
SGT. S. STRANGE - - - - - THE LOYAL REGIMENT

SCENES AND PERSONAL SKETCHES BEFORE
AND AFTER THE FALL OF SINGAPORE

Dedication

To those few intrepid souls who kept our spirits up.

To those who cared for us in sickness.

To those who awaited our return

and

To those who did not return.

Acknowledgment

The Artists express their gratitude to Lieut.-Col. Elrington for writing the Foreword, to Major Lyddon for giving the originals safe custody during our absence in other camps, and to Major Spencer and others whose interest and help have enabled us to realise our hope of printing them.


A. V. TOZE.

S. STRANGE.

FOREWORD

by

LIEUT.-COL. M. ELRINGTON, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C.,
Commanding 2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment.

 HIS collection of unique drawings gives a pictorial account of the fighting on the island of Singapore, and the life of British Prisoners of War after the surrender of that “ impregnable fortress.” To those who took part, the pictures will recall most vividly some grim phases of captivity, plus a few lighter moments. All ranks who served in the 88th and 122nd Field Regiments Royal Artillery and in the 2nd Loyals will be particularly interested in this original work of Bombardier Toze and Sergeant Strange, both of whom proved most stouthearted companions in the years of our durance vile.

This booklet will be very popular then, in Preston, Blackpool and Bradford, but it will also have a wider appeal, since it supplies authentic information which otherwise could only be gleaned with difficulty from the casual and disconnected ramblings of ex-Prisoner of War friends. The artists have therefore rendered a valuable service by producing these excellent sketches, all of which were drawn in the prison camp. I wish them every success.

M. ELRINGTON, *Lieut. Col.*,
The Loyal Regiment.

Fulwood Barracks,
Preston,

18th February, 1947.

PLATE I.

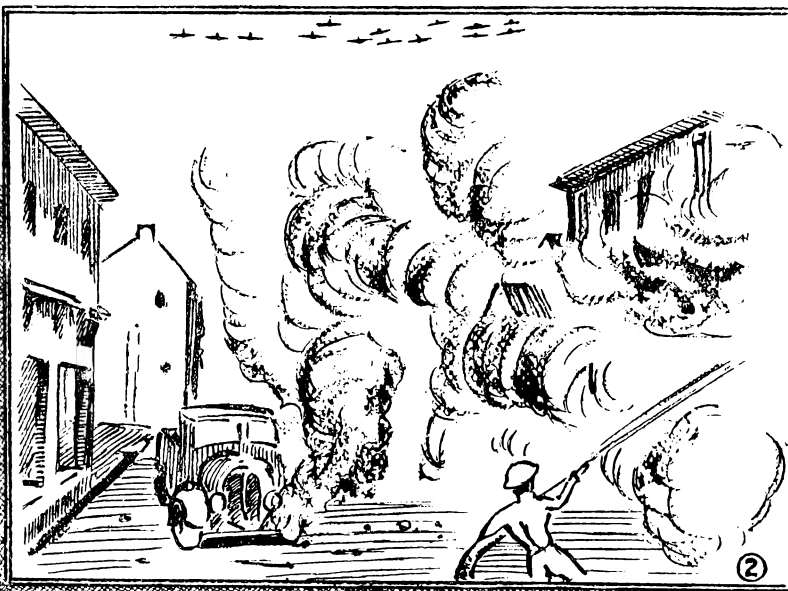
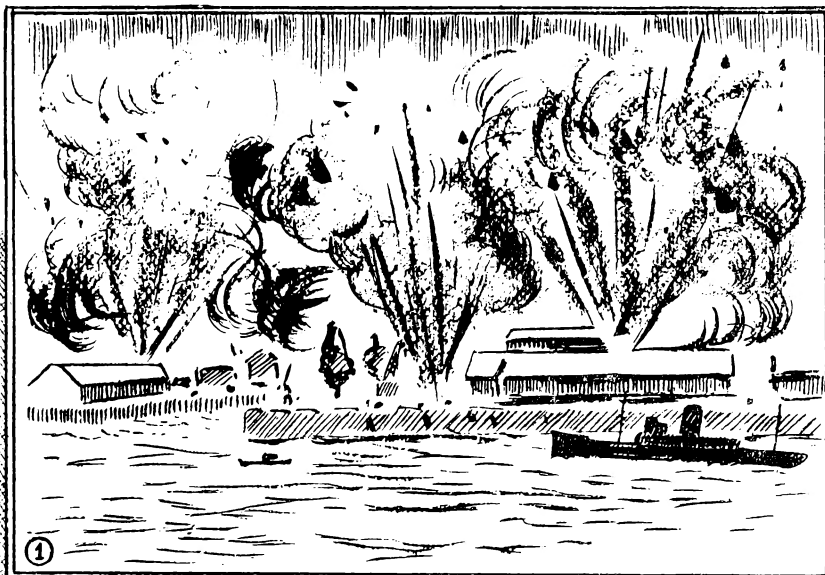
(1) The final stages in the Battle of Singapore. Keppel Harbour receiving its daily “softening.”

(2) The “usual 27” Jap planes leaving the smoking ruins during one of their hourly visits.

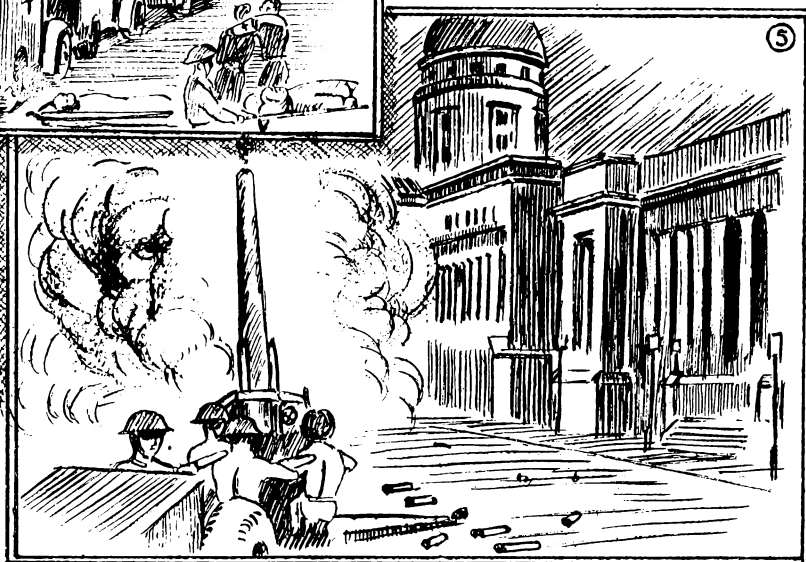
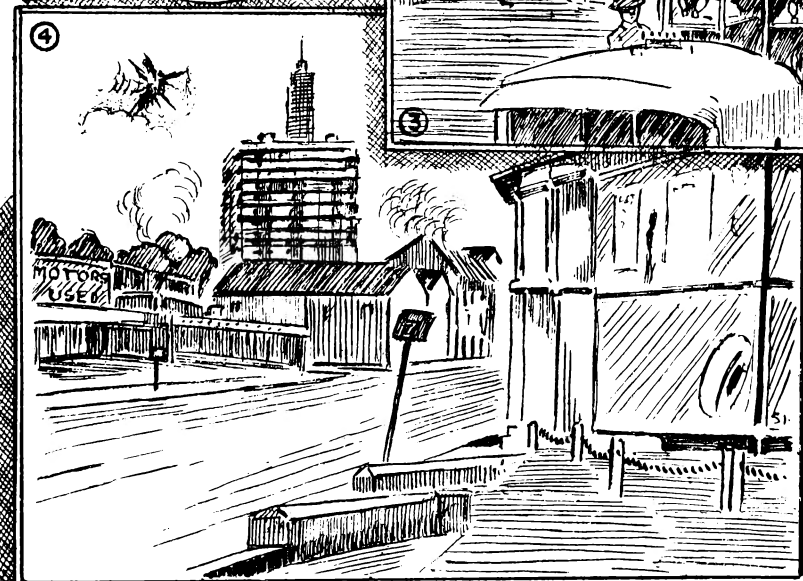
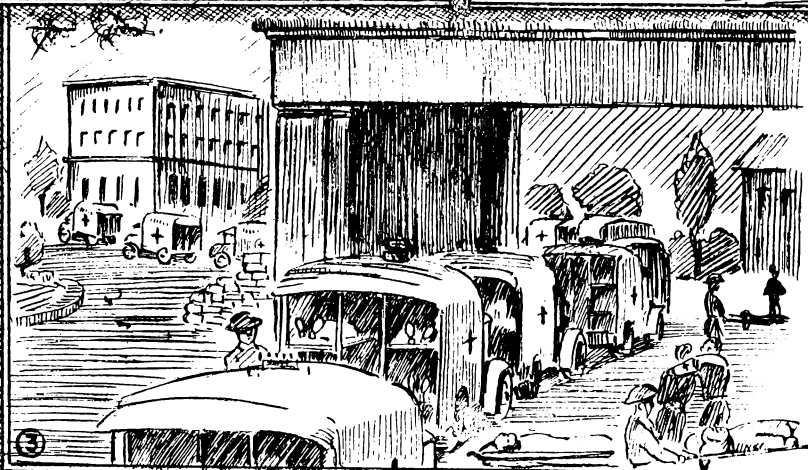
(3) Singapore’s Victoria Theatre, used as a casualty station, overflowed with wounded on February 15th, 1942.

(4) The Cathay Building under fire, and deserted Orchard Road, one of Singapore’s residential shopping centres.

(5) “Ack Ack,” furiously at work on Beach Road, opposite the new Municipal Law Courts.



1. BOMBING OF KEPPEL HARBOUR.
2. SINGAPORE FEB. 1942.
3. VICTORIA HALL CASUALTY STATION.
4. ORCHARD ROAD.
5. NEW LAW COURTS, BEACH ROAD.



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE THE LOYAL RECT. FEB. 1943.

PLATE II.

The Battle of Gillman Barracks in the last stage of the defence of Singapore.

Possibly unique in regimental history, 2nd Battalion The Loyal Regiment laid down their arms upon capitulation after defending the barracks in which they had lived as peace-time troops for four years.

One hundred and sixty-five effective fighting troops were present on the final muster of the original figure of 878 men. One Company, C/D amalgamated, came out of action with one Officer and fourteen other ranks.

(1) Gillman sports field, showing Alexandra brickworks. Hill where the Japs got round our extreme left flank.

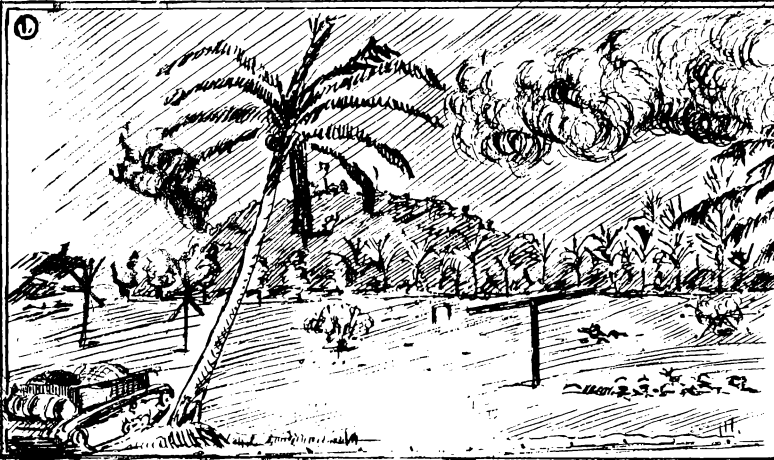
(2) The Mortar Platoon of The Loyal Regiment harassed the enemy continuously from the brickworks under persistent shellfire and dive-bombing attacks.

(3) C/D Company's bitterly contested area. Jap Officers, after capitulation, congratulated the defenders on a good fight.

(4) Overworked Regimental orderlies in Battalion M.I. Room dressed an ever-increasing flow of wounded, under consistent shellfire (2,000 shells fell in this area in twenty minutes).

(5) Married Officers' quarters in Royal Road were grimly defended by B Company under point blank artillery fire from 200 yards range. Battalion Mortars were then our heaviest weapon.

(6) Sergeants' Mess, Gillman, was used by Lieut.-Col. M. Elrington, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., as his Battalion H.Q.



THE BATTLE
OF GILLMAN BKS. 1942.

1. SPORTS FIELD
 2. BN. MORTARS IN ALEX.
BRICKWORKS.
 3. 'C/D' COYS' AREA
 4. M.I. ROOM C.C.S.
 5. 'B' COY IN ACTION
 6. BN. HQ IN SERGTS'
MESS.
- DURING FINAL BATTLE
OF SINGAPORE FEB.
13th/15th 1942.

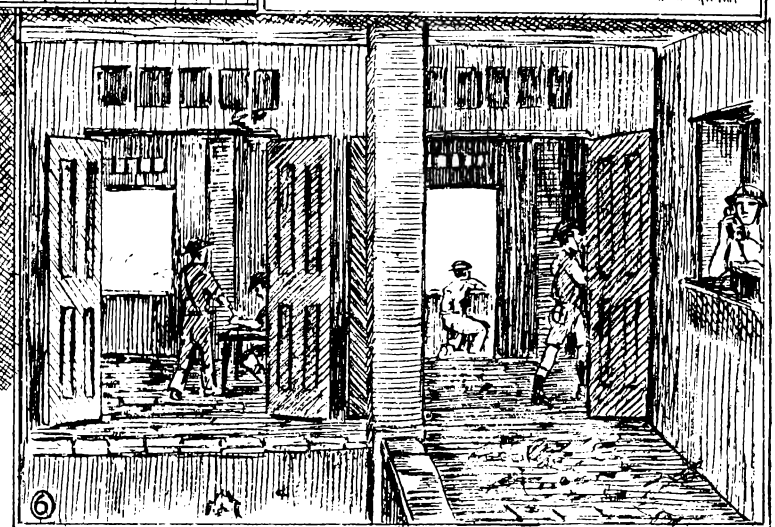
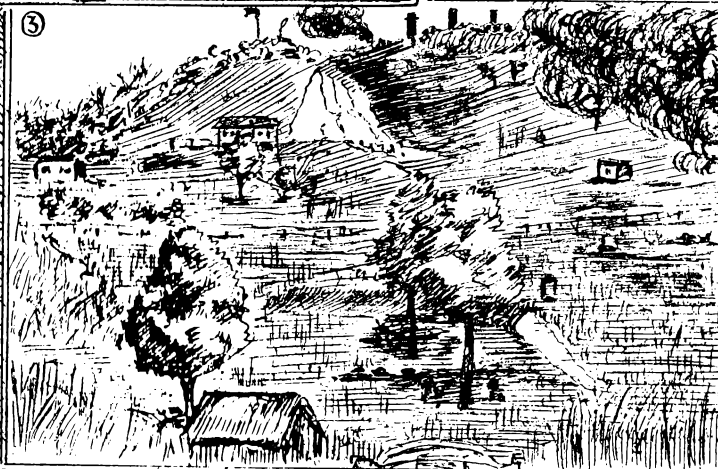
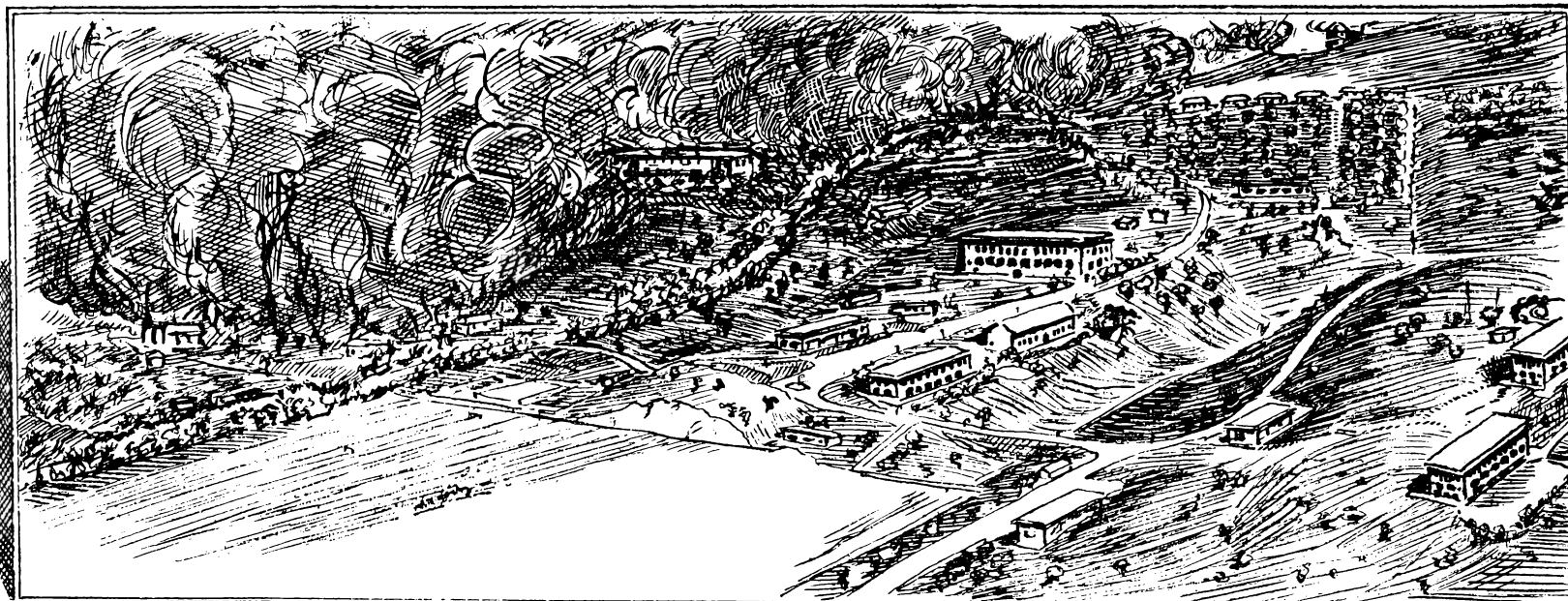


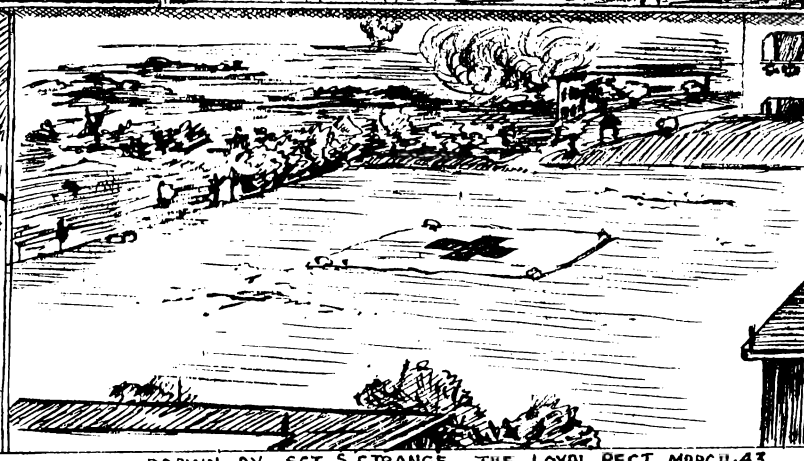
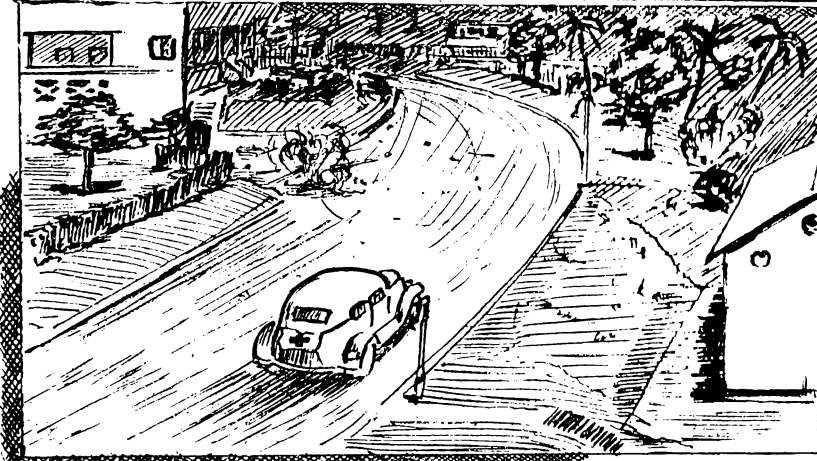
PLATE III.

- (1) Gillman Barracks under fire and dense smoke from burning Admiralty oil tanks on Ayer Rajah Road.
 - (2) Gillman Barracks used as a hospital.
 - (3) Oil tanks burning on Pulau Bukum Island, off Singapore.
 - (4) The Battalion Padre, Rev. P. Cazalet, M.C., did heroic work evacuating wounded into Singapore, under heavy mortar and shellfire, a distance of three miles.
 - (5) Barrack square with Red Cross markings, showing bomb craters at corner of Red Cross flag.
-



GILLMAN BKS.
FEB. 1942.

1. VIEW FROM GOLF COURSE.
2. HOSPITAL BLOCKS.
3. PULAU BUKUM.
4. PADRE'S CAR EVACUATING THE WOUNDED.
5. THE BARRACK SQUARE



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE, THE LOYAL REGT, MARCH '43.

PLATE IV.

FEBRUARY 15TH-16TH. CAPITULATION SCENES.

At 8-40 p.m., air raid sirens in Singapore proclaimed the cessation of hostilities.

(1) In 7th Malayan Field Hospital, patients were roused by the sound of sirens. Singapore had capitulated !

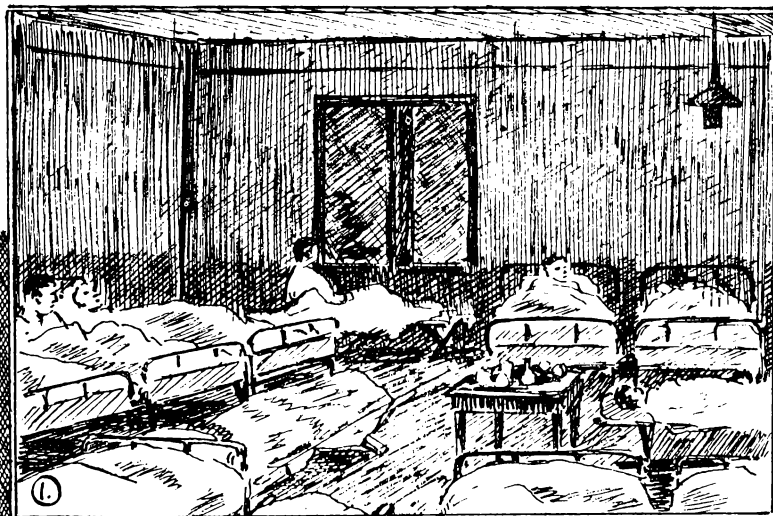
(2) With the troops, M.T. driver by his wrecked vehicle as " Cease Fire " is given.

(3) Col. Elrington receives orders to cease fire from 1st M.I. Brigade Commander, Brig. G. G. R. Williams.

(4) Weary British troops fall asleep exhausted where they had fought.

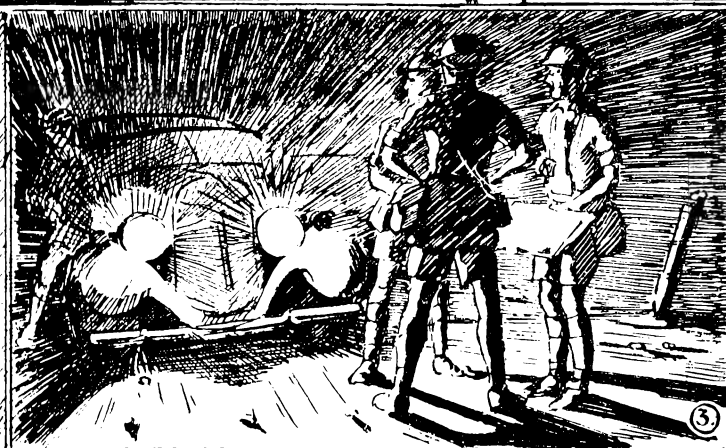
(5) Monday, February 16th. Troops at Marlborough Camp ordered by Japs to stack all arms and equipment.

(6) First decent meal for six days ; last decent meal for three and a half years.



CAPITULATION SCENES.
15TH. FEBRUARY 1942.

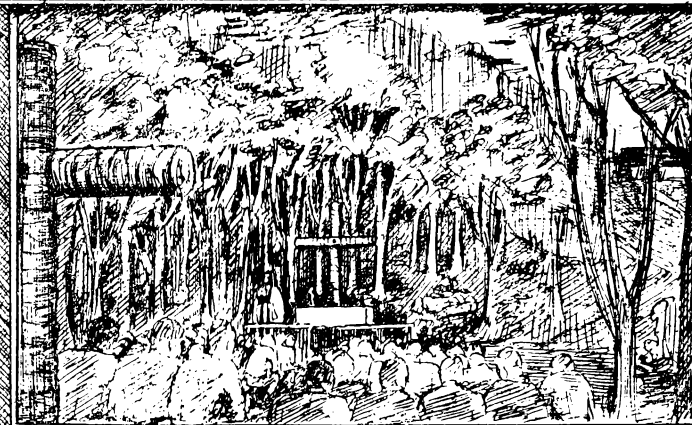
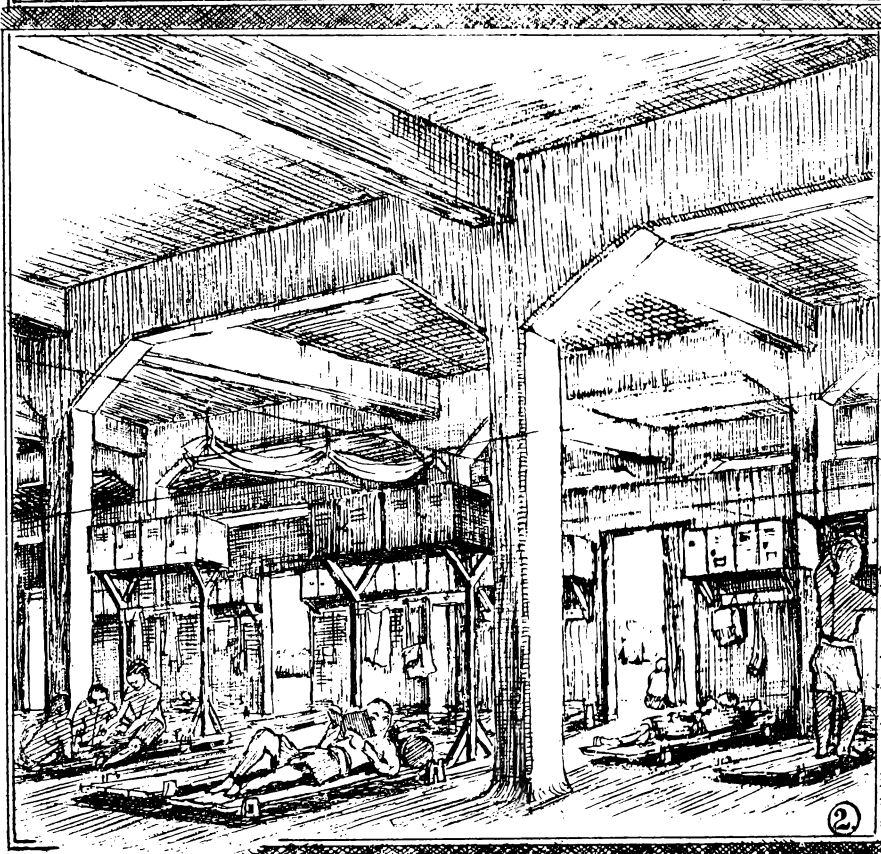
1. 7TH M.F.A., 8.30 P.M.
2. "CEASE FIRE!"
3. LOYALS C.O. RECEIVES WORD.
4. WEARY TROOPS RELAXING.
5. HANDING OVER ARMS (MARLBOROUGH CAMP)
6. FIRST MEAL AS PRISONERS-OF-WAR.



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE. THE LOYAL REGT. 1943.

PLATE V.

February 17th. A fourteen mile march found us concentrated in this pleasant spot. Nothing here suggests the flies, the hunger, the suspense, the rising tide of disease, that we associate with the name of Changi Camp.



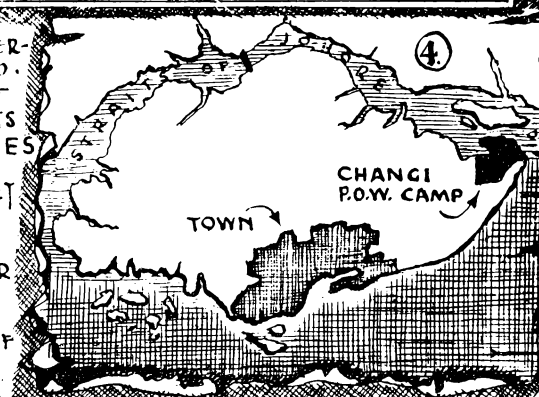
CHANGI PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMP

1. 122 R.A. BILLET & MALAY LINES

2. TYPICAL BILLET INTERIOR

3. C. of E. OPEN-AIR CHAPEL

4. SKETCH-MAP OF SINGAPORE IS.

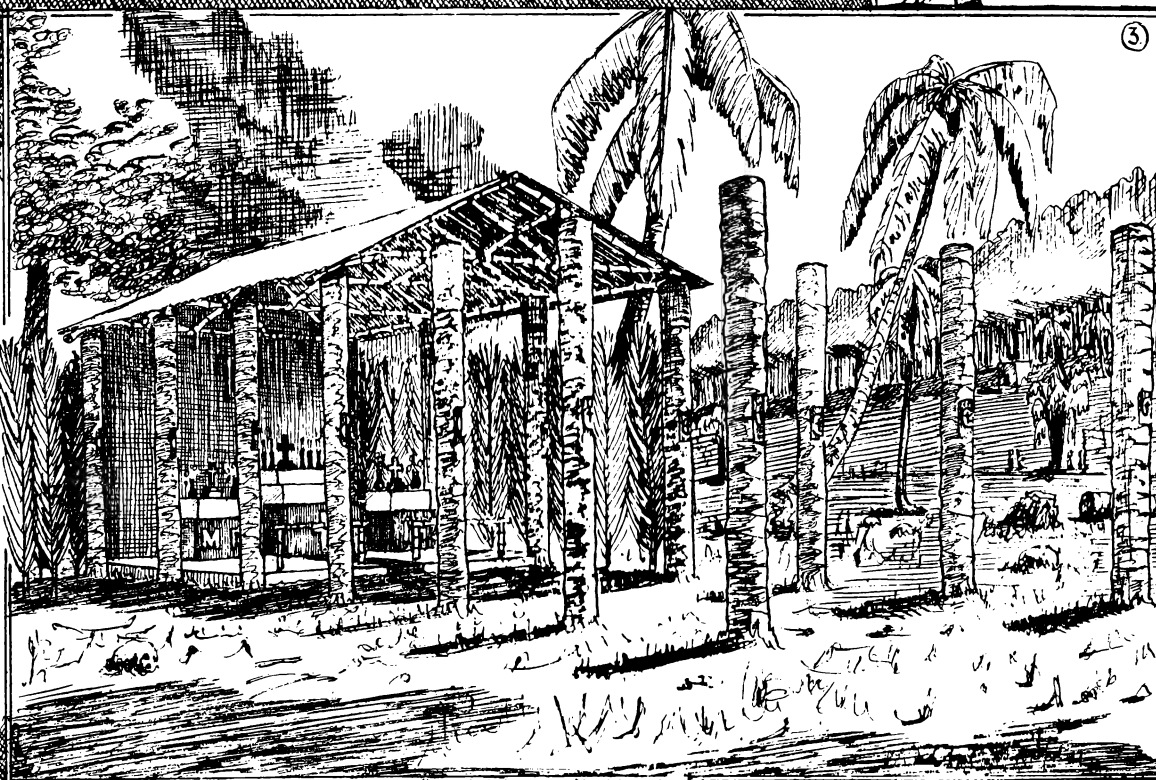
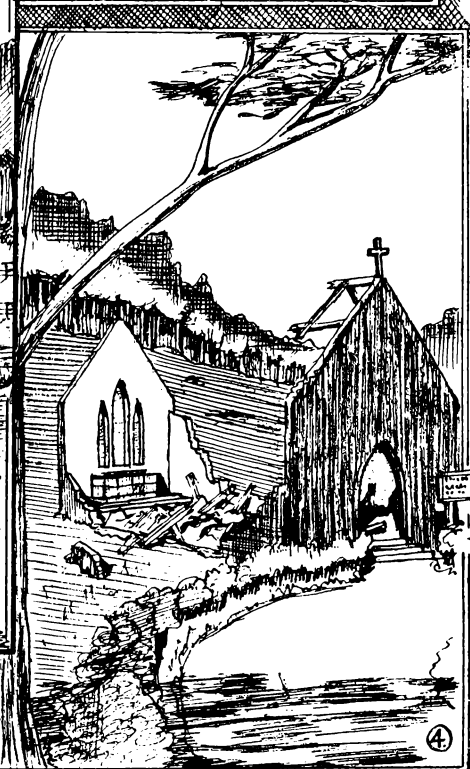
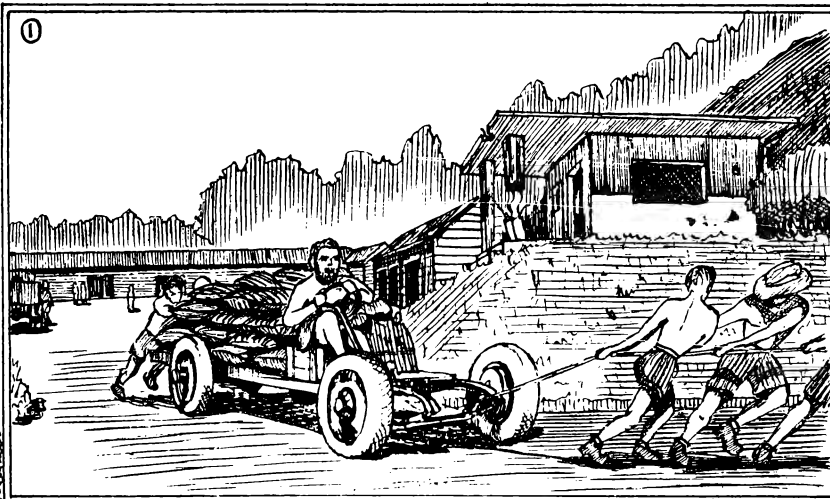


DRAWN BY L/BDR. A. V. TOZE, 122 R.A.

MAR 1943

PLATE VI.

More Changi scenes, which show how rice and precious water were hauled in engine-less vehicles. Sikhs, either traitorous or frightened by the Japs, were put to guard us ; a typical example of Nipponese nastiness. We were ordered to salute these new representatives of the Mikado !

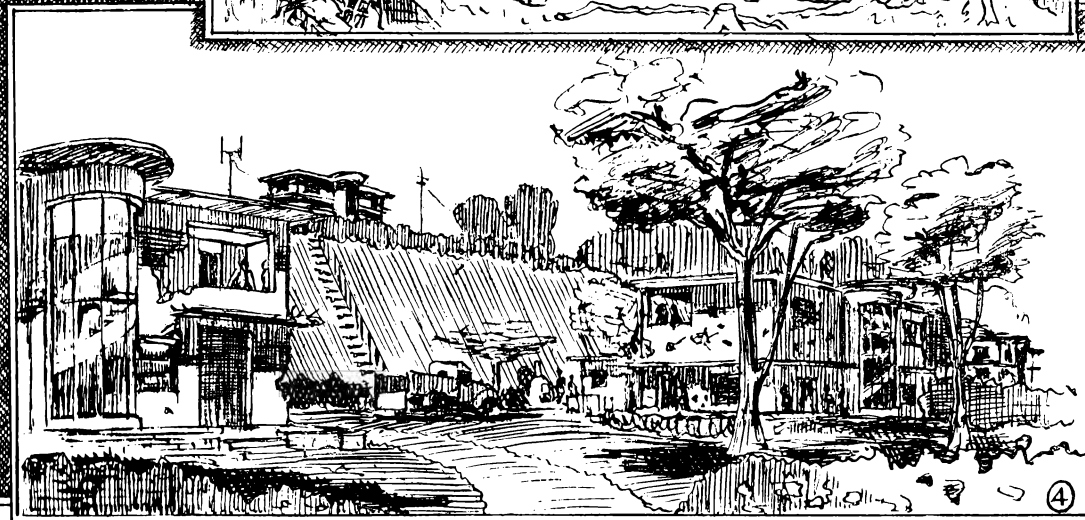
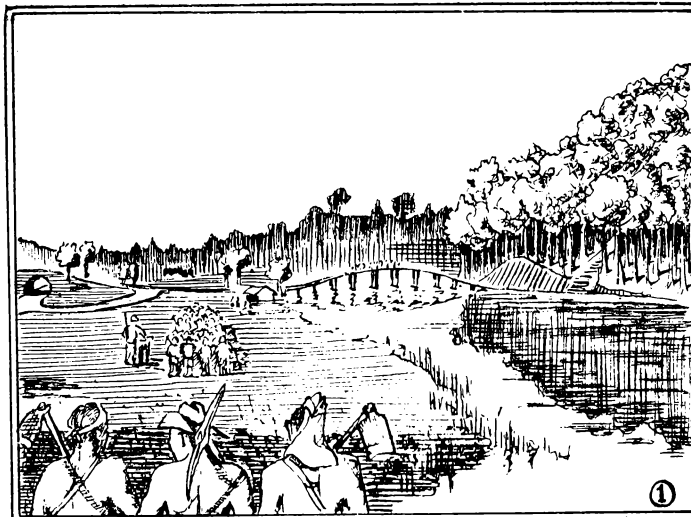


1. TYPICAL "CHANGI" BUGGY LEAVING ARTILLERY SQUARE WITH RICE RATIONS.
2. WATER FATIGUE ENTERING SOUTHERN AREA. (NOTE INTER-AREA "CONVOY" & SIKH SENTRY)
3. R.C. CHURCH IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.
4. RUINS OF BOMBED R.C. GARRISON CHURCH, CHANGI

DRAWN BY L/BDR. K.V. TOZE, 122. R. A., MAR. 1943.

PLATE VII.

The Caldecott Working Party, consisting of about 2,000 men, cut several miles of road through jungle and swamp, built bridges and shrines. Another party at Kranji was employed on similar work.



THE CALDECOTT WORKING PARTY—
SINGAPORE ISLAND, MAY 5TH—JUNE 28TH 1942.
1. WORKING PARTIES BY MORITCHIE RESERVOIR
2. CUTTING A ROADWAY THROUGH JUNGLE.
3. LEVELLING THE ROAD BED.
4. 122 R.A. QUARTERS IN SHATTERED,
MODERN HOUSES AT CALDECOTT ESTATE
5. JAP. WAR GRAVES IN LORMIE ROAD
6. P.O.W. CEMETERY, CALDECOTT HILL.
DRAWN BY 4808. A/V/TOLE. 122. B.A. KEIJO. 20-2-43



PLATE VIII.

During the latter part of May, 1942, the Japanese army of occupation in Singapore moved to Sumatra, and five days elapsed in which work ceased. Men left unguarded camps *en masse*, and entered the town. Organised feeding of Prisoners of War by the Chinese and Eurasian people of Singapore was carried out at great risk of reprisals.

(1) Over the wire.

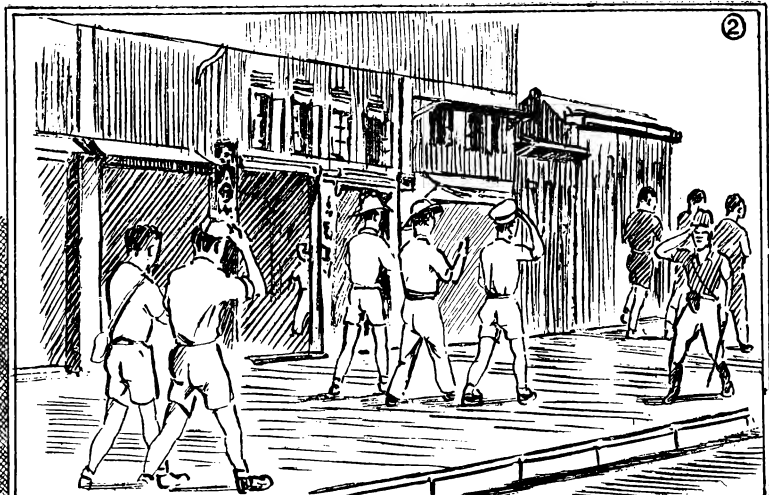
(2) Saluting Jap soldiers in order to puff their pride and escape uncomfortable questioning. It always worked.

(3) Chinese men, women and children gave food, money and cigarettes to ragged Prisoners of War.

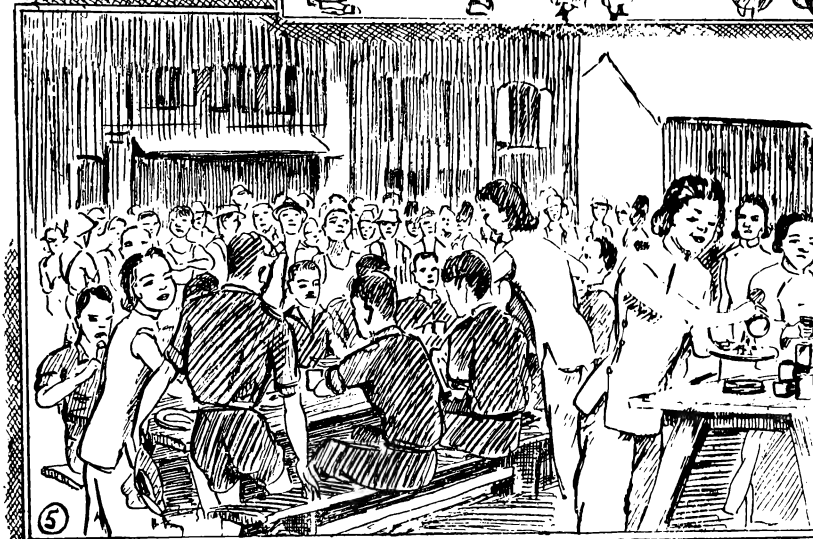
(4) Even the lowly rickshaw coolie offered free rides and “fag ends.”

(5) Organised meals in back streets by Chinese amahs and ladies.

(6) The old sew-sew woman offers a loaf from her meagre stock.



THE 5 DAYS UNOFFICAL
"HOLIDAY" AT CALDECOTT
1. OVER THE WIRE.
2. INTO TOWN.
3. CHINESE GIRLS
FEEDING P.O.W.
4. "SMOKE JOHNNY?"
5. 2ND 3RD AND 4TH DAYS.
6. BEAU GESTE.



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE. THE LOYAL REG'T. MARCH, 1943.

PLATE IX.

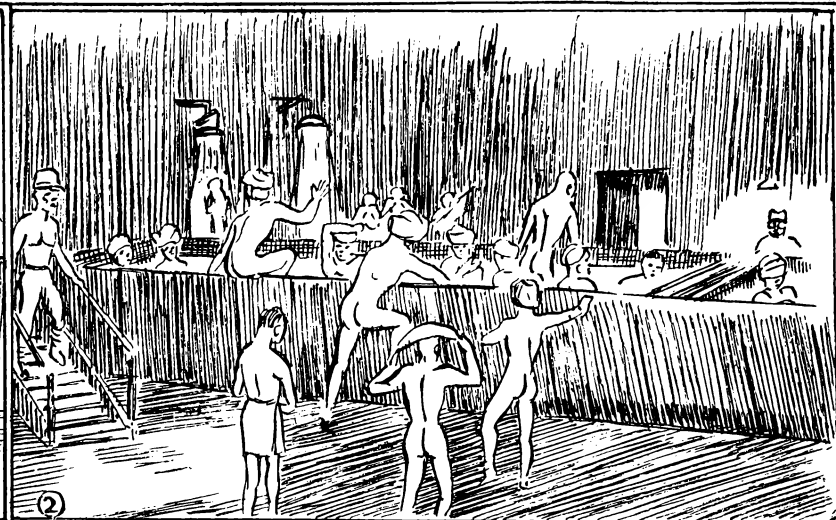
TRANSPORTATION TO KOREA. AUGUST, 1942.

A party of 1,500 Prisoners of War, including His Excellency the Governor of Singapore, Sir Shenton Thomas, G.O.C. Gen. Percival and many other high ranking Officers, were duly fumigated and crammed aboard a dirty tramp steamer of approximately 3,800 tons.

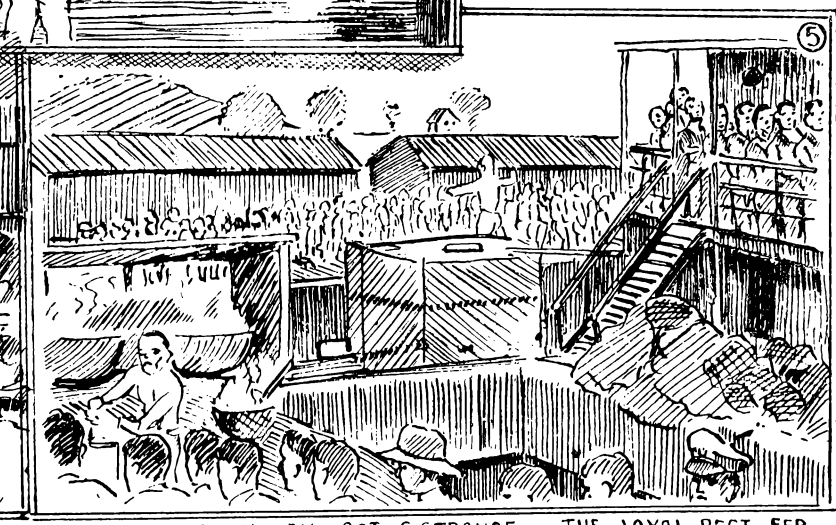
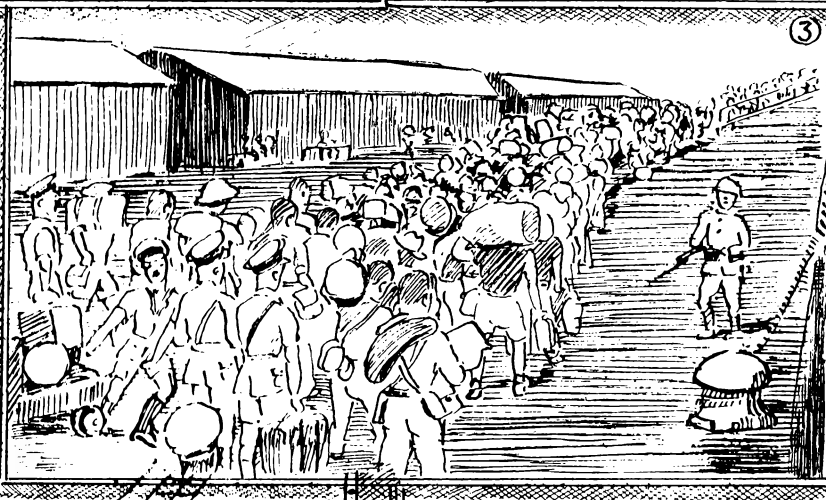
After protesting at the ridiculous attempt to cram everybody aboard, the Governor's party and some 400 other ranks were transferred to another vessel which conveyed them to Formosa.

The *Fukai Maru*, with 1,100 aboard, sailed in convoy for Fusan, Korea, in a nightmare journey lasting forty days.

- (1) Assembly at Keppel Harbour, Sunday, August 14th.
 - (2) Fumigation bath, aboard Japanese ship.
 - (3) One thousand five hundred embark on *Fukai Maru*.
 - (4) Crushed on shelves, 9 ft. long, 7 ft. wide, 4 ft. 6 in. high, fifteen men to a shelf, with kit.
 - (5) All ashore to file aboard again for our only meal of the day--rice and stew.
-



1. WAITING ON THE DOCKS.
 2. THE FUMIGATION BATH.
 3. BOARDING THE "FUKAI MARU".
 4. ACCOMMODATION
 5. THE FIRST MEAL ABOARD.
 "FUKAI MARU" P.O.W. SHIP
 OF 3,000 TONS. CARRYING
 1,100 PRISONERS SAILED
 FROM SINGAPORE 16th AUG.
 1942. ARRIVING IN CHOSEN
 SEPT. 21st 1942.



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE THE LOYAL REGT. FEB. 1943

PLATE X.

(1) Marching in gangs of 200 aboard fumigation ship. "They can't take us to Japan on this barge," we said, and they did not; after fumigation we were marched on to the much smaller vessel in front.

(2) Selling clothes for fruit at Cap St. Jacques, Saigon.

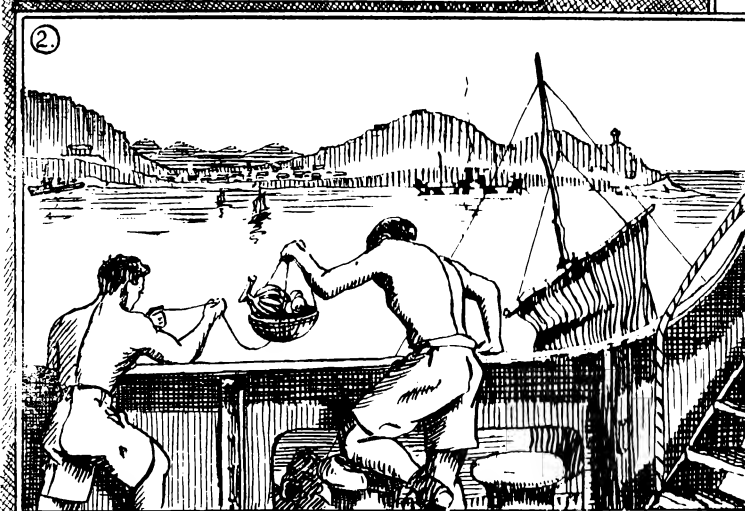
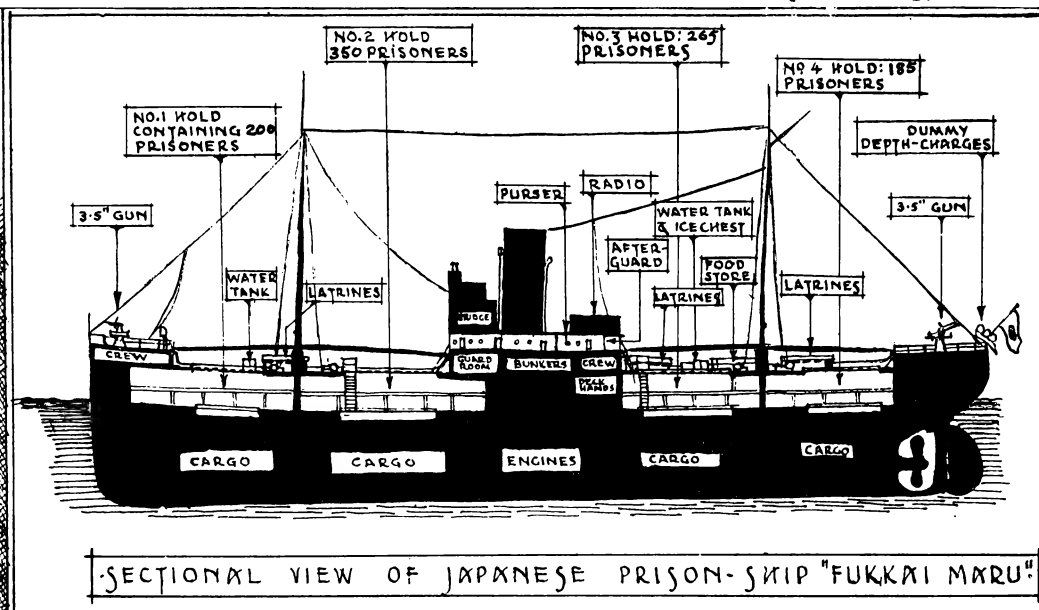
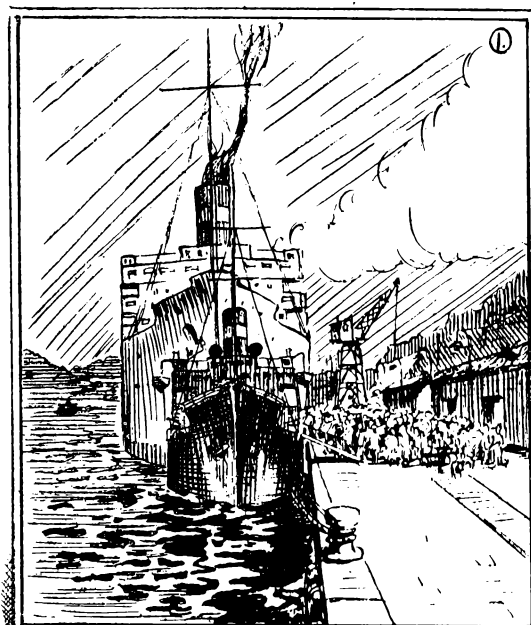
(3) Waiting to enter Takao Harbour, Formosa, where we spent ten days unloading bauxite and loading rice.

(4) Joining convoy off Pescadores, September 10th.

(5) Water spouts, East China Seas, September 18th.

(6) *Fukai Maru* (Yokohama, 1912).—Sectional drawing.

TRANSFER OF 1,100 BRITISH P.S. OF W. FROM SINGAPORE TO KOREA IN THE "FUKAI MARU" (APPROX. 3,800 TONS)



1. EMBARKING AT SINGAPORE DOCKS 16TH. AUG. 1942
2. BUYING FRUIT ST. JACQUES, SAIGON 22ND. AUG.
3. WAITING TO ENTER TAKAO HARBOUR, FORMOSA 29TH AUG.
4. JOINING CONVOY OFF PESCADORES 16TH SEPT.
5. WATERSPOUTS EAST CHINA SEA 18TH SEPT

DRAWN BY L/BDR A.V. TOZE 122 A.F.D. REGT R.A.
KENO FEB. 1943

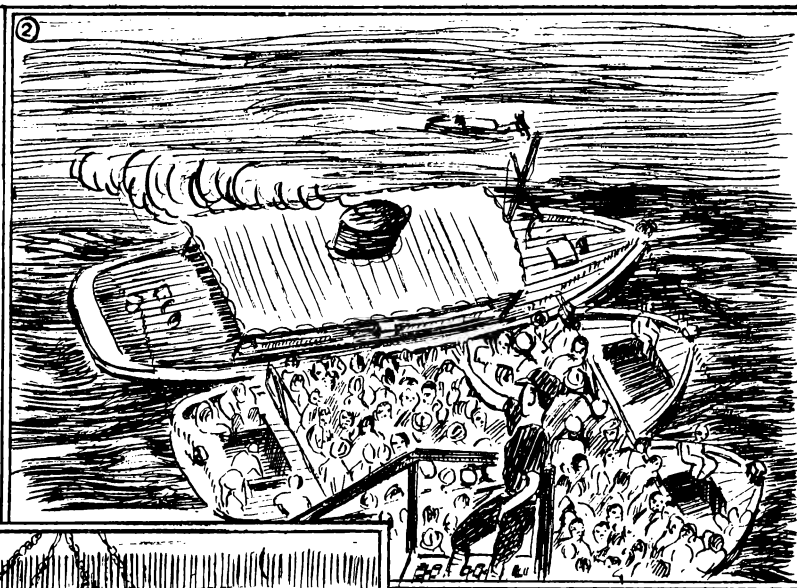
PLATE XI.

(1) and (3) Unloading bauxite, Takao Harbour, for which we got three meals per day.

(2) Ferry taking shore party to work in coalyard and oil depot. Here we managed to sabotage some M.T.B.s on the repair stocks.

(4) Stealing onions to augment rations. One man climbed over the side, kicked his way into the vegetable store and passed onions to waiting comrades.

(5) Formosan girls sewing up torn rice sacks during loading of rice.



1. FUKAI MARU UNLOADING
BAUXITE, TAKAO FORMOSA.
2. FERRY LEAVING FOR COALYARD
3. SHOVELLING BAUXITE IN THE
HOLDS BY P.S.O.W. WHILST IN
TAKAO HARBOUR.
4. THE "ONION RACKET"
5. RICE COMING ABOARD,
FORMOSAN GIRLS SEWING
TORN SACKS.



PLATE XII.

(1) Huge seas sweeping over prison ship in East China Seas.

(2) Below battened hatches.

(3) Issue of rice and stew, twice a day, 9 a.m. and 4-30 p.m.

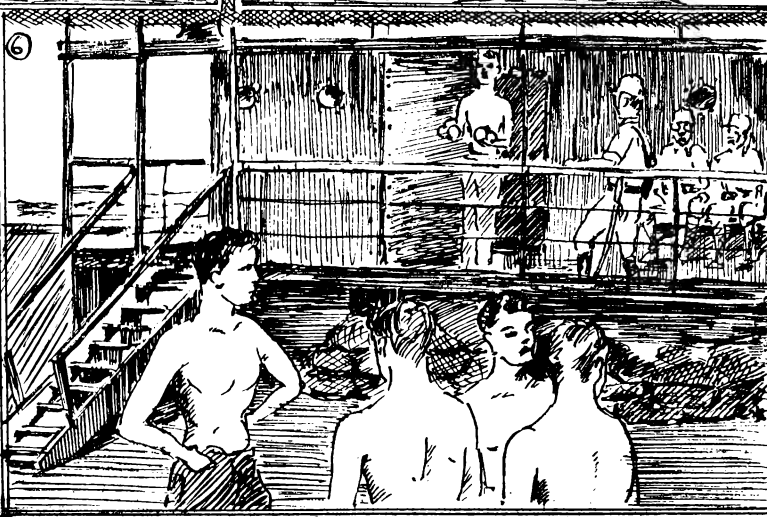
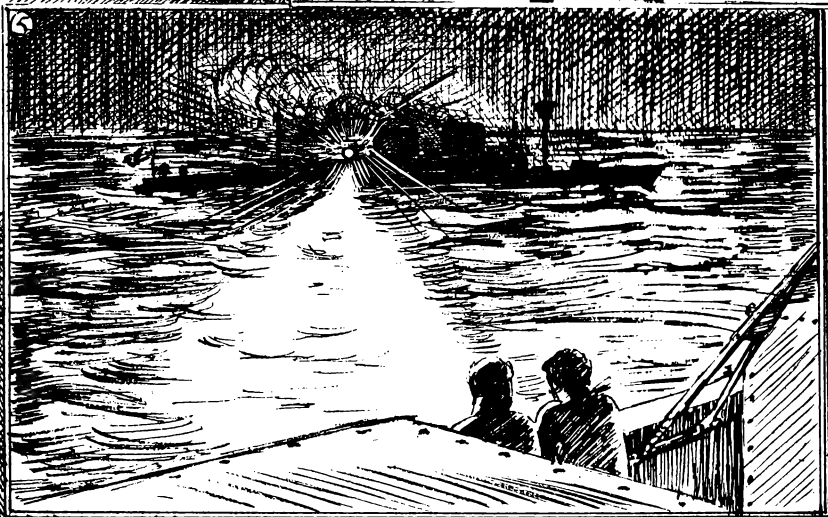
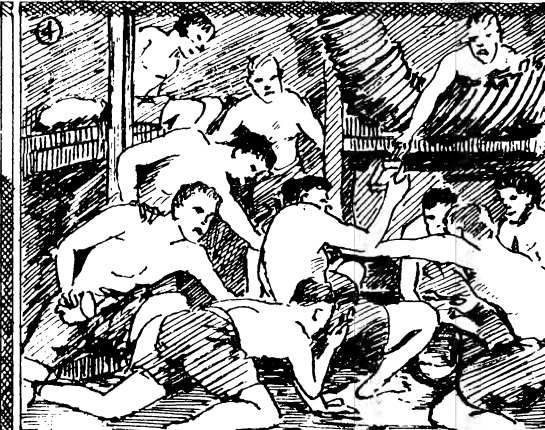
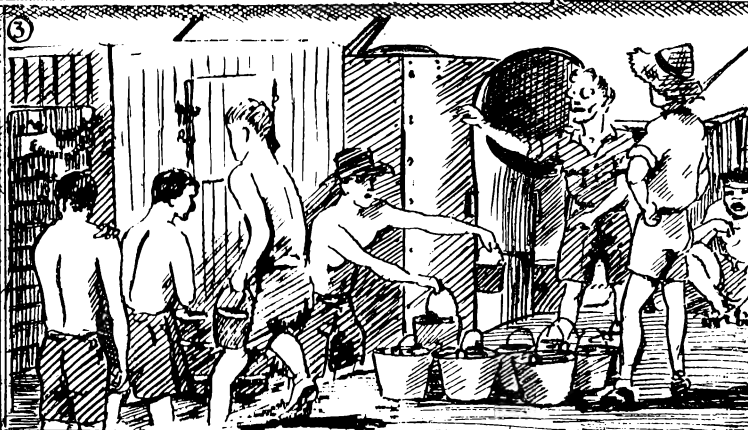
(4) Sugar issue once a week ; scene shows scramble for sugar accidentally dropped into hold.

(5) Escorting destroyer inspects convoy.

(6) Australian Prisoner of War caught in onion store, who was made to stand on the bridge for four hours, holding three large onions in each hand until his arms became numb.



1. IN THE EAST CHINA SEA.
2. INSIDE A HOLD.
3. FOOD ISSUE.
4. THE 'SUGAR SCRAMBLE'.
5. AN ESCORT VESSEL SPOTLIGHTS US.
6. AUSTRALIAN P.O.W. PUNISHED FOR ONION STEALING.



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE. THE LOYAL REGT. 1943.

PLATE XIII.

ARRIVAL AT FUSAN, KOREA (CHOSEN).

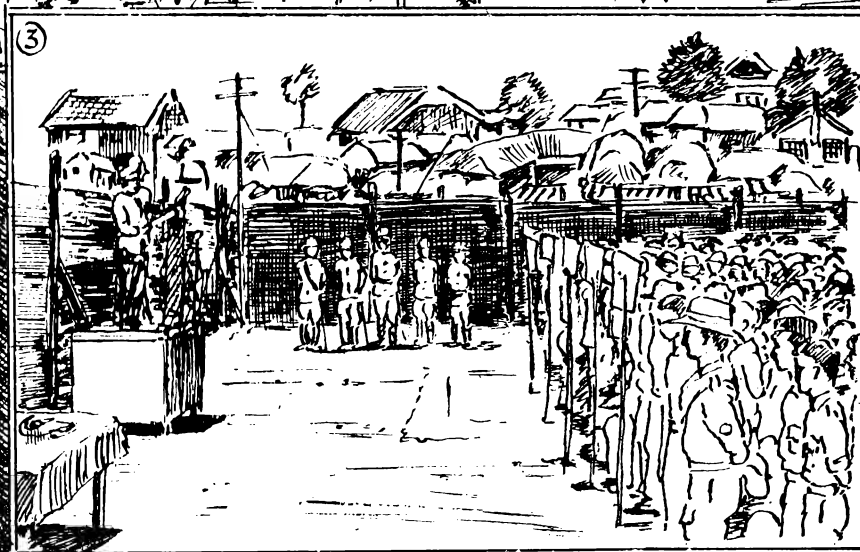
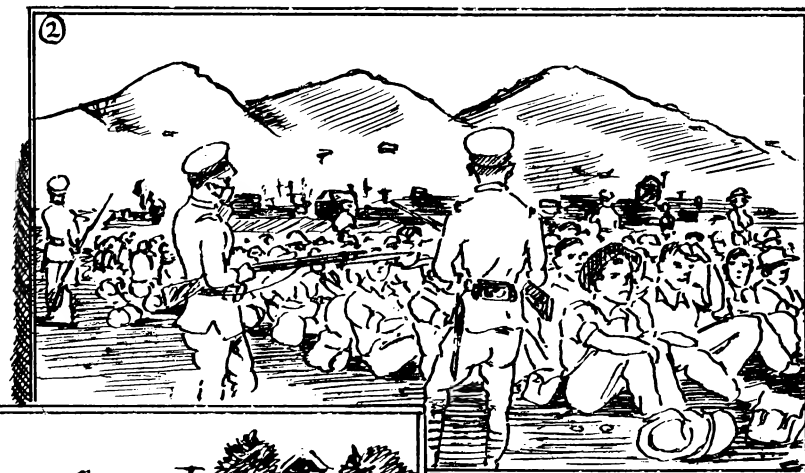
(1) As we disembarked, we were sprayed with disinfectant. Photographs were taken of us by Jap pressmen from the top of a car which was pushed along by their colleagues.

(2) Mustered on the wharf for inspection of kit by "Kempei," Jap Military Police, prior to journey to Keijo.

(3) Col. Y. Noguchi, Nipponese camp commander, addressing Prisoners of War on arrival.

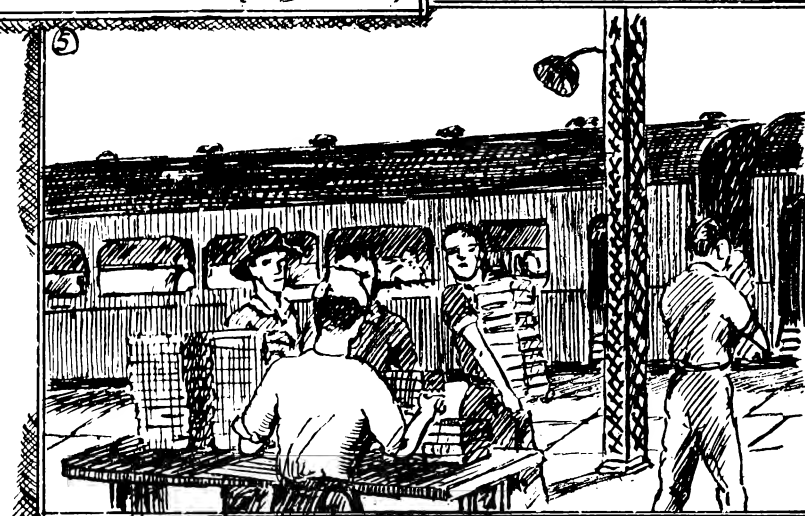
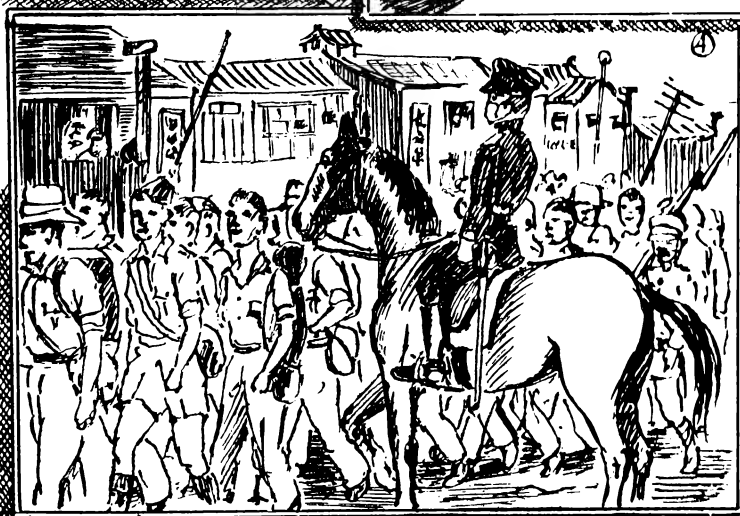
(4) After marching round the streets of Fusan and Keijo, between marshalled Korean multitudes, we arrived at Keijo No. 1 Prisoner of War Camp.

(5) Rations for twenty hour train journey from Fusan to Keijo.



ARRIVAL IN CHOSŌN —

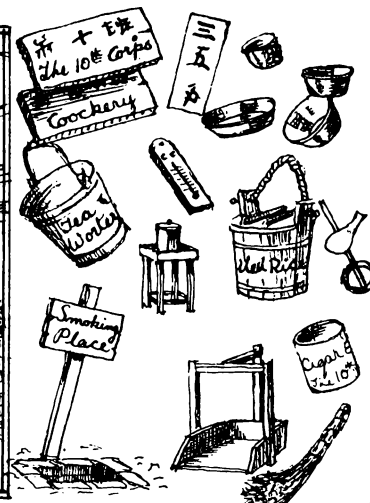
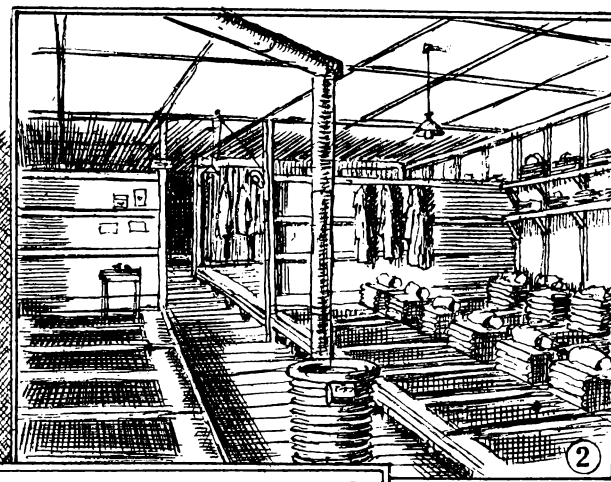
1. DISEMBARKING — FUSAN
2. AWAITING SEARCH.
3. COL. NOGUCHI'S SPEECH OF WELCOME AT KEIJO
4. MARCHING THROUGH STREETS (FUSAN & KEIJO)
5. RATION ISSUE EN ROUTE



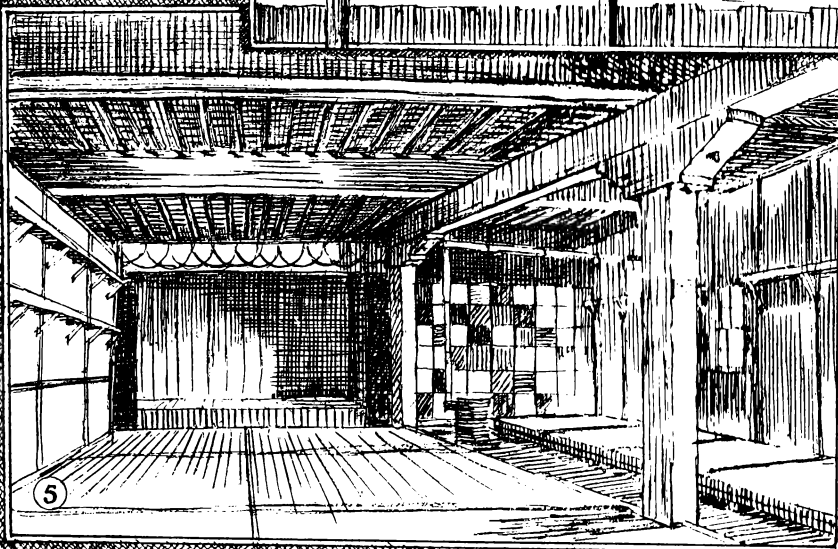
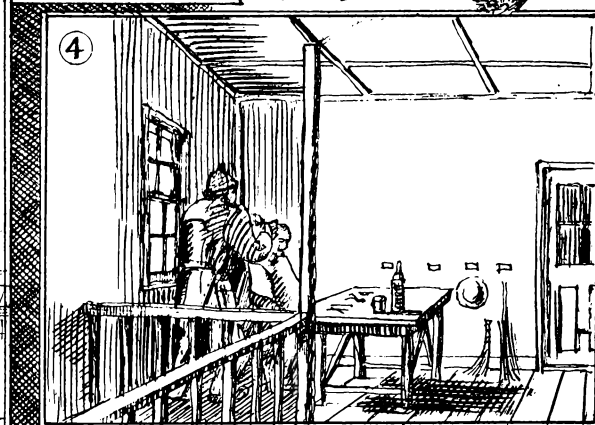
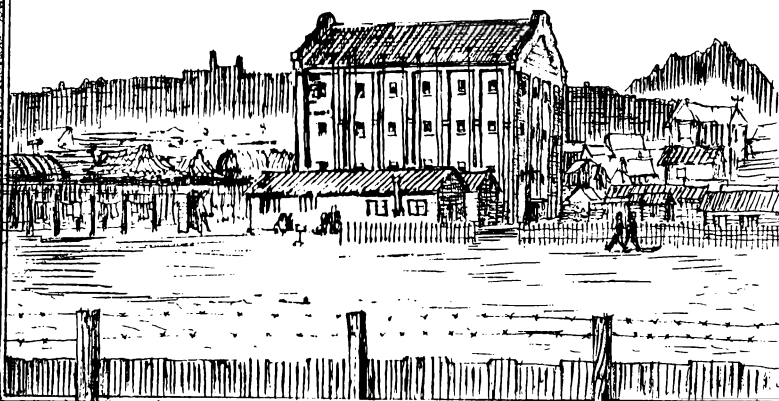
DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE. THE LOYAL REGT. 1943

PLATE XIV.

No. 1 Japanese Prisoner-of-War Camp,
Keijo, Korea (Chosen).



NO1 JAPANESE PRISONER-OF-WAR CAMP KEIJO CHOSEN ③



DRAWN BY L/BDR. A.V. TOLE - 122 A.F.D. REGT. R.A. FEB 1943.

PLATE XV.

(1) Roll call, when British Warrant Officer reported to Jap Orderly Officer, accompanied by British Orderly Officer.

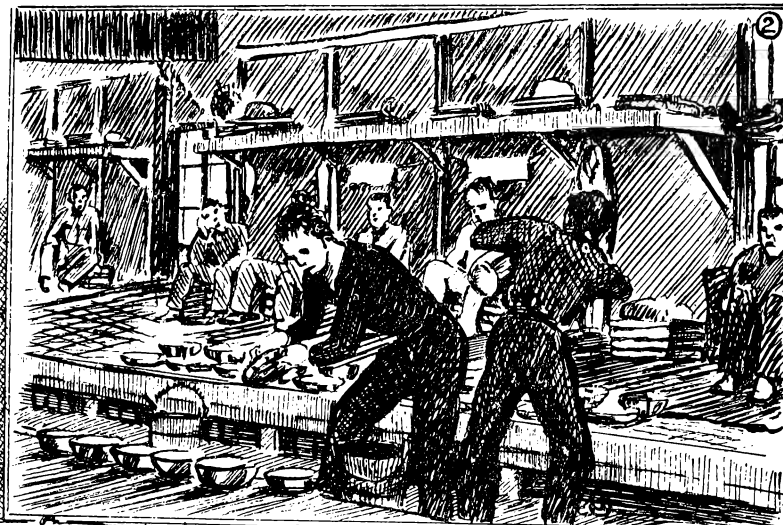
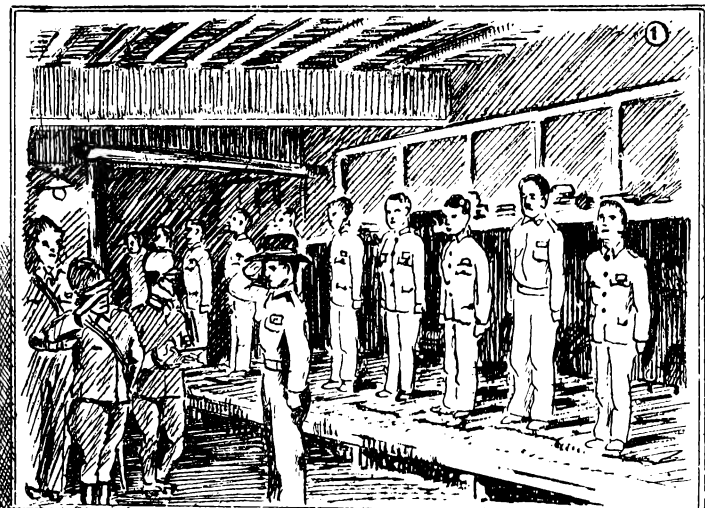
(2) Immediately after roll call. Breakfast : bowl of rice, bowl of seaweed or bean sprout stew.

(3) Work in winter, often in temperature of 15° to 25° F., necessitated wearing as much clothing as possible.

(4) Home from work to crowd round the stove, thawing out our frozen bread.

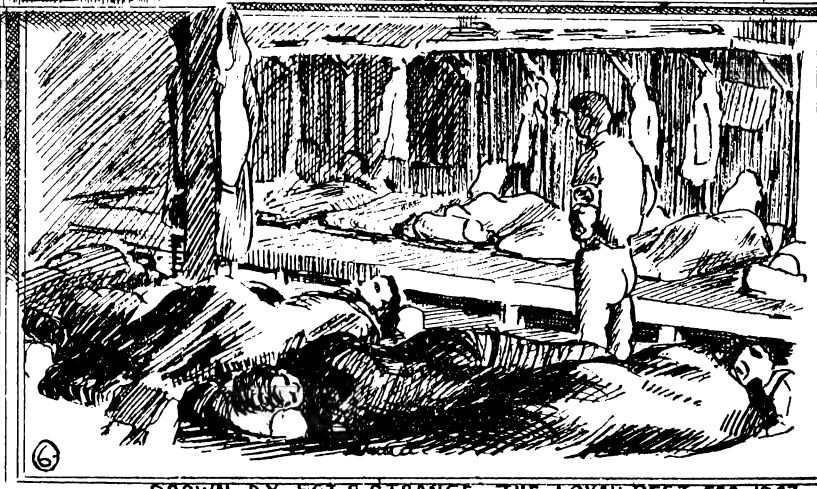
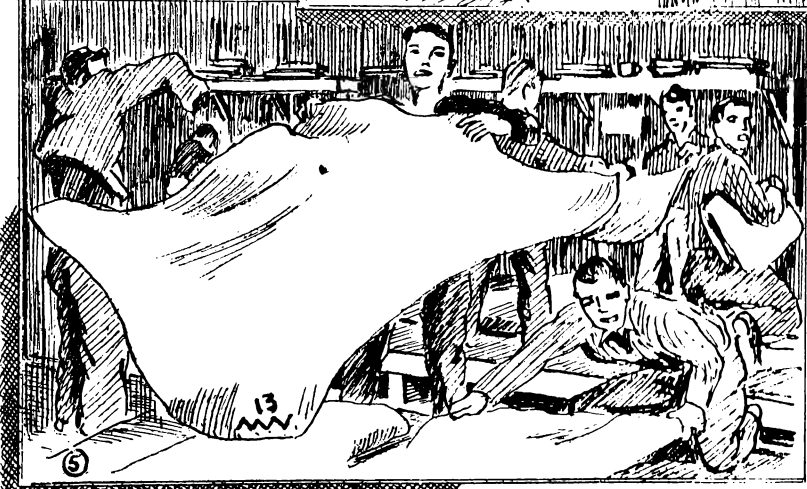
(5) After roll call, at 8 p.m., beds were made down and half-an-hour's relaxation before "lights out."

(6) Sentries had to patrol the rooms at night to prevent fire. Sleeping head to foot, space was extremely limited. Lice and fleas abounded.



A DAY IN THE LIFE
OF A P.O.W

1. MORNING ROLL CALL.
2. SERVING OUT THE RICE.
3. PREPARING FOR WORK
4. TOASTING THE COB.
5. BEDS DOWN 8 P.M.
6. NIGHT SENTRY AND SLEEPING SPACE

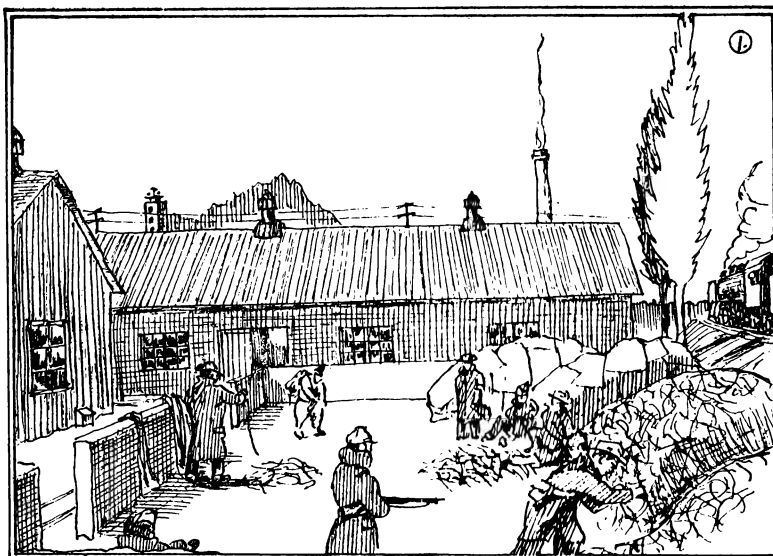


DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE, THE LOYAL REGT. FEB. 1943.

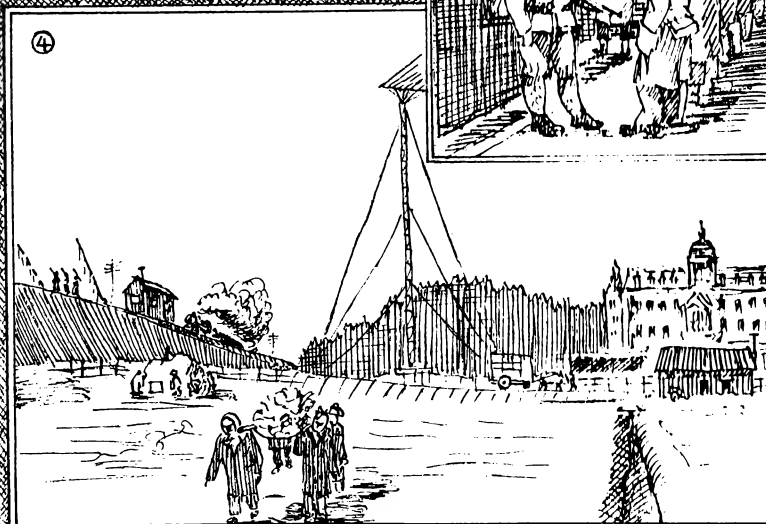
PLATE XVI.

KEIJO MILITARY WAREHOUSE JOB.

- (1) Winter ; untying knots to preserve used straw ropes.
 - (2) Summer ; stacking milled rice.
 - (3) Japanese “ Kempei ” searching Prisoners of War for matches, etc.
 - (4) Carrying hay on litters, opposite old Russian Embassy.
 - (5) Assembly at tents to smoke. Smoking was permitted at specified places only, both at work and in camp.
-



1. UNTYING KNOTS.
2. RICE CARRYING.
3. "GESTAPO" SEARCHING P.O.W.
4. WAY-CARRYING - AT "THE FARM".
5. "SMOKO" PLACE.
6. POLICE & COOLIES.



SCENES AT
THE KEIJO
WAREHOUSE.

DRAWN BY NO. 456
L/DDR. A.V. TOZE
122ND. A. FD. REGT.
P.A. — KEIJO
FEBRUARY — 1943

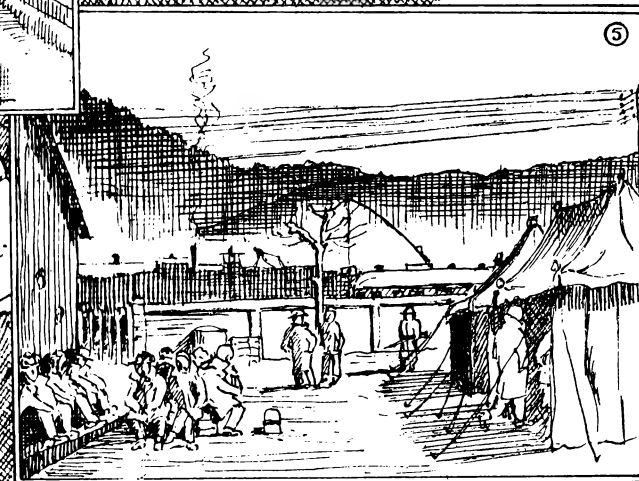


PLATE XVII.

RACECOURSE JOB.

(1) Korean women washing. Prisoners of War carrying sand.

(2) Sand carrying. Temperature 85° in shade.

(3) "Pro-Jap" sentry chasing Prisoner of War.

(4) General view of the river and hills around Keijo.

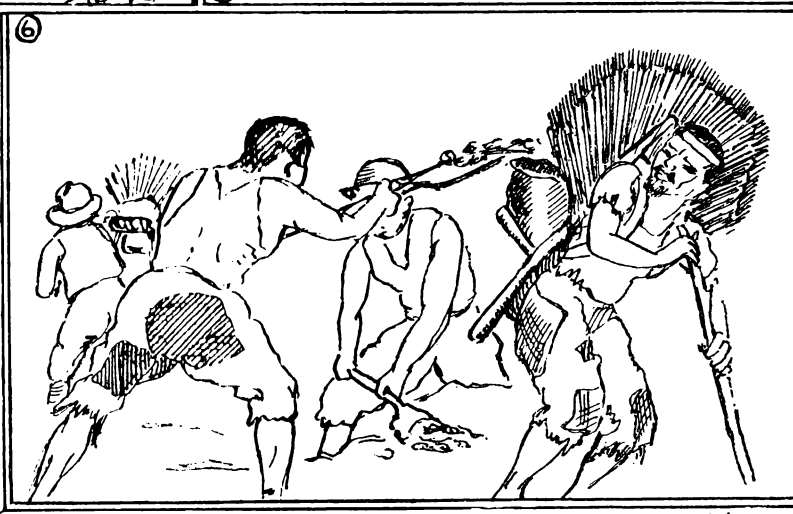
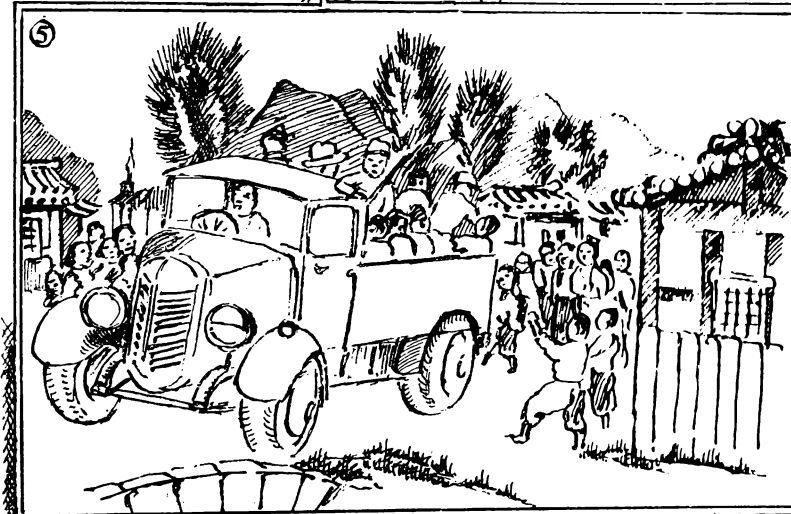
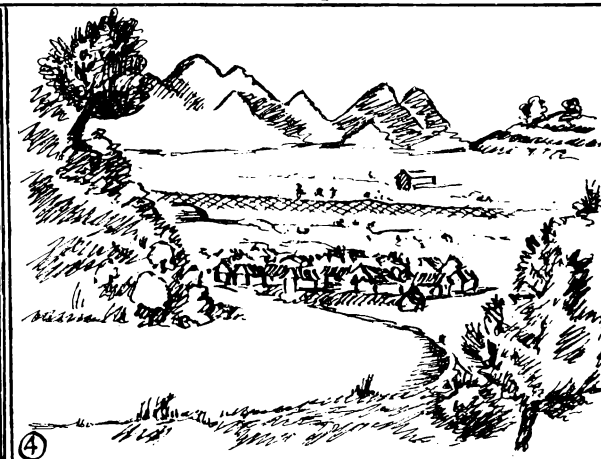
(5) Local Koreans cheer us on our way, despite Jap guards.

(6) Coolie carries twenty-eight shovels of sand in his curious basket.



"DRY GULCH" JOB -

1. NATIVE LAUNDRY
2. COOLIE WORK IN 85°
3. SENTRY "CHASER".
4. GENERAL VIEW.
5. CORDIAL SEND-OFF BY VILLAGERS
6. KOREAN COOLIES.



DRAWN BY SGT. S. STRANGE THE LOYAL REGT. 1943.

PLATE XVIII.

Unfinished sketch of Officers' vegetable garden at Keijo. The skeleton buildings are horse standings, used at the commencement of the China incident.

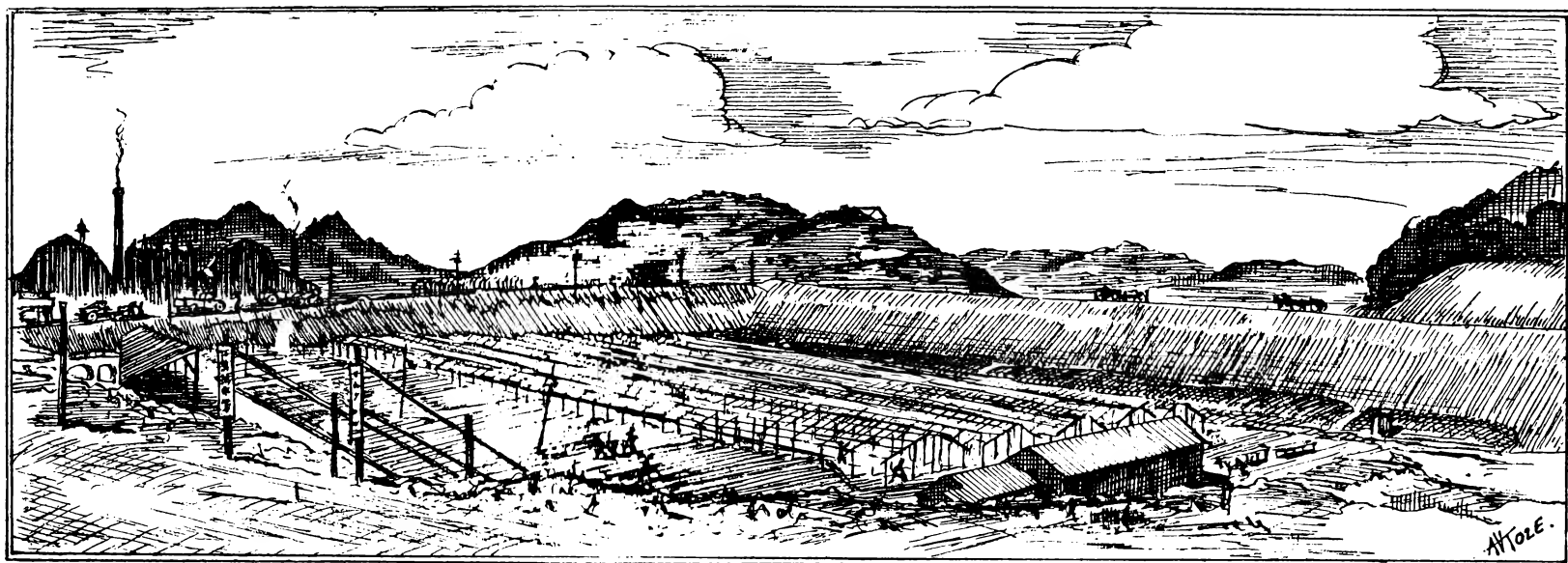


PLATE XVIII.

PLATE XIX.

Mass burial of fourteen British Prisoners
of War who died at Keijo Camp.

Propaganda screen and artificial wreaths
were used for press purposes. Later, in Kobe,
Japan, men who died were broken into a
crouching position and put into soya barrels,
two feet high.

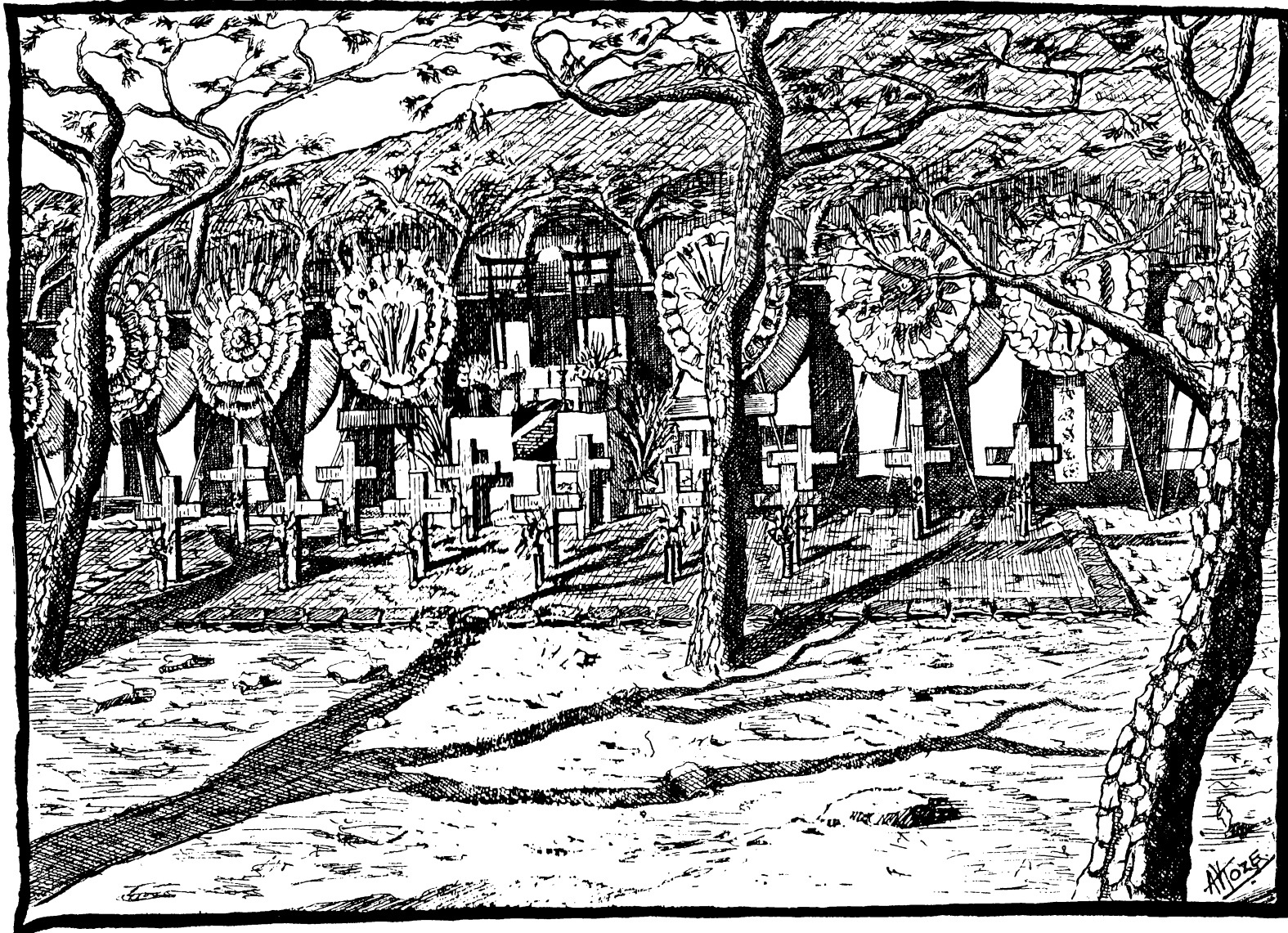


PLATE XIX.

*T. Snape & Co. Ltd.,
Bolton's Court, Preston,
Lancs.*

